

SEP 19 1975

**WORLD HEALTH
ORGANIZATION**



**ORGANISATION MONDIALE
DE LA SANTÉ**

1211 GENEVA 27 - SWITZERLAND
Telegr.: UNISANTE-Geneva

Tél. 34 60 61 Télex. 27821

1211 GENÈVE 27 - SUISSE
Télégr.: UNISANTÉ-Genève

In reply please refer to: CWS

Prière de rappeler la référence:

11 September 1975

Dear Dr Lederberg,

Your office memorandum of 22 July 1975 addressed to Dr Kaplan has been referred to my attention.

As requested, WHO Technical Report Series No. 517 and Public Health Papers No. 59 are being sent to you under separate cover.

Regarding the interest you mention in respect of water reclamation, you will find in TRS No. 517 a review, inter alia, of the extent to which wastewater is being reused at present and the specific health hazards associated with such reuse. The report also contains recommendations on research and on the health safeguards to be observed in reusing effluents for various purposes, as well as a comprehensive bibliography on the subject.

As recommended by this report, we believe that wastewater reuse for domestic purposes should be considered only as a last resort. However, with adequate safeguards, wastewater reclamation for agricultural, industrial and recreational purposes can certainly be recommended both as a means of conserving water resources and of water pollution control.

We have noted your comments regarding the possible contribution of chlorination of water supplies to the ozone-depletion problem but have no further information on this subject.

Yours sincerely,

Luis A. Orihuela
Chief, Community Water Supply
and Sanitation
Division of Environmental Health

Dr Joshua Lederberg
Department of Genetics
Stanford University
Stanford
California 94305
United States of America

... UNDER SEPARATE COVER: As mentioned above